Calendar No. 277

102D CONGRESS *1st Session*	SENATE	REPORT 102-193

AUTHORITY TO RELEASE RESTRICTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH GARY REGIONAL AIRPORT LANDS

Mr. HOLLINGS, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, submitted the following

REPORT

OF THE

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

ON

H.R. 470

OCTOBER 17 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 19), 1991.—Ordered to be printed

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Mr. HOLLINGS, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 470]

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, to which was referred the bill (H.R. 470) to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to release the restrictions, requirements, and conditions imposed in connection with the conveyance of certain lands to the city of Gary, Indiana, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

H.R. 470 gives the Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) the authority to grant a release or releases, without any monetary consideration, with respect to the restrictions, requirements, or conditions imposed on the Gary Regional Airport property. Any moneys received for use of the airport property subject to the release by the Secretary must be used for the development, operation, maintenance, or improvement of the airport.

BACKGROUND AND NEEDS

In 1947, the Federal Government deeded to Gary, IN, under the Federal Airport Act of 1946, land that now constitutes the Gary Regional Airport. The property was a former military airfield. The land conveyed was subject to a specific restriction: the property would revert automatically to the Federal Government if the lands were not developed or ceased to be used for airport purposes.

The city of Gary now seeks to use the property for other than direct airport purposes. While the precise future use of the proper-

ty is not certain, the Committee understands that the city of Gary will seek approval for a foreign trade zone. In order for the city of Gary to pursue such an interest, the existing restrictions on the land must be removed.

The Federal Aviation Administration has indicated that a foreign trade zone would not interfere with the operation of the airport and, as a result, the U.S. interest in the usage of the property as an airport would not be diminished. It is important to note, however, that H.R. 470 does not guarantee, suggest, or otherwise take a position on the proposal, that the property be used for that purpose, but rather gives the Secretary the authority to remove existing restrictions to enable the property to be used to generate revenue for the airport and jobs for the area.

Legislative History

H.R. 470, introduced by Congressman Visclosky (D. Ind.), was reported by the House Committee on Public Works and Transportation on June 7, 1991, and passed by the House on June 24, 1991. It was referred to the Committee on June 25, 1991. On October 3, 1991, the Committee met in open executive session to consider this bill and, without objection, ordered H.R. 470 favorably reported.

Estimated Costs

In accordance with paragraph 11(a) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee provides the following cost estimate, prepared by the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. Congress,
Congressional Budget Office,
Washington, DC, October 4, 1991.

Hon. Ernest F. Hollings,
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Dear Mr. Chairman: The Congressional Budget Office has reviewed H.R. 470, an act to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to release the restrictions, requirements, and conditions imposed in connection with the conveyance of certain lands to the city of Gary, Indiana. The act was ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on October 3, 1991. CBO estimates that no cost to the federal government or to state or local governments would result from enactment of H.R. 470. Enactment of this legislation would not affect direct spending or receipts. Therefore pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply to H.R. 470.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Mitchell Rosenfeld, who can be reached at 226–2860.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Reischauer,
Director.

Regulatory Impact Statement

In accordance with paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee provides the following evaluation of the regulatory impact of the legislation, as reported.

The reported bill would not subject any business or individual to additional regulation, and, therefore, would not have any impact on such individuals or businesses. The bill, as reported, also would not have any adverse impact on the personal privacy of individuals. No additional paperwork is expected to result from the reported bill.

Section-by-Section Analysis

SECTION 1.—RELEASE OF CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS

Section 1(a) authorizes the Secretary to release the city of Gary, IN from certain restrictions regarding the use of the Gary Regional Airport property. The restrictions were originally imposed when the property was transferred from the Federal Government to the city. Section 1(b) describes the property at issue. Section 1(c) states that any amounts received for the use of the property shall be used for the development, improvement, operation, or maintenance of the Gary Regional Airport.

Changes in Existing Law

In compliance with paragraph 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee states that the bill as reported would make no change to existing law.

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